

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 19-28 and 32-35 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-18 and 29-31 have been cancelled herewith. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants are not conceding in this application that cancelled Claims 1-18 and 29-31 are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

Claims 1-18 and 29-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Sempé et al. (Autonomous Robots Sharing a Charging Station with no Communication: a Case Study, 2002). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled such claims herewith, without prejudice or disclaimer, such that this case can expeditiously pass to issuance.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-18 and 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

II. Allowable Claims

Applicants graciously acknowledge the allowance of Claims 19-28 and 32-35. As these Claims 19-28 and 32-35 are the only claims remaining, this case is now in condition for allowance.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited reference and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Wayne P. Bailey/_____

Wayne P. Bailey
Reg. No. 34,289
Yee & Associates, P.C.
P.O. Box 802333
Dallas, TX 75380
(972) 385-8777
Attorney for Applicant